means for detecting an off-hook condition at a subscriber telephone line;

means for determining the information services selected by the subscriber; and,

means for generating an audio message, in response to the off-hook condition, corresponding to the selected information services for receipt by the subscriber, wherein the step of determining comprises correlating the subscriber directory number with the selected information services in the subscriber's profile.

REMARKS

Claims 1-37 were pending in the application. Claims 1, 16, and 27 have been amended. No claims have been added or canceled. Therefore, claims 1-37 remain pending in the application after entry of this amendment.

The Examiner initially rejected claims 1-2, 6, 9-10, 12, 14-15, 17, 20-21, 23, 25-27, 31-32, and 35-37 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,222,120 to McLeod, et al. (hereinafter "McLeod"). The Examiner rejected claims 3-5, 7, 8, 11, 13, 18, 19, 22, 24, 29, 30, 33, and 35, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), also in view of McLeod.

McLeod appears to teach an apparatus and method for providing enhanced telephone services, including audio news and weather information services, to subscribers through a central long distance switching office, in response to *access numbers dialed by the subscribers* (*see, e.g.*, col. 20, lines 20-24). Applicant, on the other hand, claims methods and systems for providing information services to clients in response to *the detection of an off-hook signal* (*see, e.g.*, amended claims 1, 16 and 27). Replacing a dial-tone with information services accessed by simply picking up a phone is decidedly different from accessing information services through a dial-up service. Thus, Applicants' claimed invention is not anticipated by McLeod. Further, Applicant's

invention is not taught or suggested by McLeod. Therefore, claims 1, 16 and 27 are believed to be patentable.

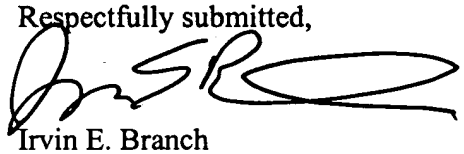
Claims 2-15, 17-26, and 28-35, depend from claims 1, 16, and 27, respectively, and are thus believed to be patentable, at least for these reasons.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX A

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (Once Amended) In a communication network comprising a plurality of subscriber telephone lines, each coupled to an associated telephoning switching facility, each subscriber telephone line having at least one directory number and an associated subscriber profile including selected information services, a method for providing information services to a subscriber, comprising:

detecting an off-hook condition at a subscriber telephone line;

determining the information services selected by the subscriber; and

in response to the off-hook condition, generating a message corresponding to the selected information services for receipt by the subscriber, wherein the step of determining comprises correlating the subscriber directory number with the selected information services in the subscriber's profile.

2. A method as in claim 1, wherein the message is an audio message.

3. A method as in claim 1, wherein the message is a text message.

4. A method as in claim 1, wherein the message is a video message.

5. A method as in claim 1, wherein the message is a graphic message.

6. A method as in claim 1, wherein the step of determining comprises correlating the subscriber directory number with the selected information services in the subscriber's profile in accordance with predetermined criteria.

7. A method as in claim 6, wherein the predetermined criteria includes the time, date, or day of week.

8. A method as in claim 6, wherein the predetermined criteria includes the time since the last detected "off-hook" condition.

9. A method as in claim 1, wherein while receiving the message, or after the message completes, entering one of a plurality of codes by the subscriber accesses additional information.

10. A method as in claim 9, wherein entering a code by the subscriber accesses the subscriber's correspondence messaging service.

11. A method as in claim 1, wherein the communication network is an advanced intelligent network (AIN).

12. A method as in claim 1, wherein the communication network is a public switched telephone network.

13. A method as in claim 1, wherein selecting an appropriate calling number by the subscriber terminates the message.

14. A method as in claim 13, wherein the subscriber selects an appropriate calling number by generating DTMF (dual tone multi-frequency) tones.

15. A method as in claim 1, wherein the message is terminated when the subscriber goes "on hook" by hanging up the line.

16. (Once Amended) In a wireless communication network comprising a plurality of subscriber telephone lines, each coupled to an associated telephone switching facility, each subscriber telephone line having at least one directory number and an associated subscriber profile including selected information services, a method for providing information services to a subscriber, comprising:

detecting at a switching facility an off-hook condition at a subscriber telephone line;

determining the information services assigned to a subscriber; and,

in response to the off-hook condition, generating an audio message corresponding to the assigned information services for receipt by the subscriber in place of dial tone, wherein the step of determining comprises correlating the subscriber directory number with the selected information services in the subscriber's profile.

17. A method as in claim 16, wherein the step of determining comprises correlating the subscriber directory number with the selected information services in the subscriber's profile in accordance with predetermined criteria.

18. A method as in claim 17, wherein the predetermined criteria includes the time, date, or a day of week.

19. A method as in claim 17, wherein the predetermined criteria includes the time since the last detected "off-hook" condition.

20. A method as in claim 16, wherein while receiving the message, or after the message completes, entering one of a plurality of codes by the subscriber accesses additional information.

21. A method as in claim 20, wherein entering a code by the subscriber accesses the subscriber's correspondence messaging service.

22. A method as in claim 16, wherein the communication network is an advanced intelligent network (AIN).

23. A method as in claim 16, wherein the communication network is a public switched telephone network.

24. A method as in claim 16, wherein selecting an appropriate calling number by the subscriber terminates the message.

25. A method as in claim 24, wherein subscriber selects an appropriate calling number by generating DTMF (dual tone multi-frequency) tones.

26. A method as in claim 16, wherein the message is terminated when the subscriber goes "on hook" by hanging up the line.

27. (Once Amended) In a communication network comprising a plurality of subscriber telephone lines, each coupled to an associated telephoning switching facility, each subscriber telephone line having at least one directory number and an associated subscriber profile including selected information services, a system for providing information services to a subscriber, comprising:

means for detecting an off-hook condition at a subscriber telephone line;

means for determining the information services selected by the subscriber; and,

means for generating an audio message, in response to the off-hook condition, corresponding to the selected information services for receipt by the subscriber, wherein the step of determining comprises correlating the subscriber directory number with the selected information services in the subscriber's profile.

28. A method as in claim 27, wherein the step of determining comprises correlating the subscriber directory number with the selected information services in the subscriber's profile in accordance with predetermined criteria.

29. A method as in claim 28, wherein the predetermined criteria includes the time, date, or day of week.

30. A method as in claim 28, wherein the predetermined criteria includes the time since the last detected "off-hook" condition.

31. A method as in claim 27, wherein while receiving the message, or after the message completes, entering one of a plurality of codes by the subscriber accesses additional information.

32. A method as in claim 31, wherein entering a code by the subscriber accesses the subscriber's correspondence messaging service.

33. A method as in claim 27, wherein the communication network is an advanced intelligent network (AIN).

34. A method as in claim 27, wherein the communication network is a public switched telephone network.

35. A method as in claim 27, wherein selecting an appropriate calling number by the subscriber terminates the message.

36. A method as in claim 35, wherein the subscriber selects an appropriate calling number by generating DTMF (dual tone multi-frequency) tones.

37. A method as in claim 27, wherein the message is terminated when the subscriber goes "on hook" by hanging up the line.